

JONATHAN E. FIELDING, M.D., M.P.H. Director and Health Officer

JONATHAN E. FREEDMAN Chief Deputy Director

313 North Figueroa Street, Room 708

Los Angeles, California 90012 TEL (213) 240-8156 • FAX (213) 481-2739

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov

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June 23, 2009

TO:

Each Health Deputy

FROM:

Jonathan E. Freedman

Chief Deputy Director

SUBJECT:

PROPOSED STATE FUNDING CUTS FOR THE BLACK INFANT HEALTH

**PROGRAM** 

This is to notify you of proposed cuts in State funding for the Black Infant Health Program (BIH) for FY 2009-10 under consideration in the Legislature. The Governor's May Revision proposed to eliminate \$3.1 million State General Funds to BIH, which supports five BIH subcontract agreements in Los Angeles County. The Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Programs currently receive \$2,047,245 for the provision of BIH services. The funding allocation includes Title V (\$575,713), State General Fund (\$766,058) and Title XIX federal matching funds (\$705,043). The proposed cut will eliminate our ability to draw down the Title XIX federal matching funds, and if adopted, the remaining BIH allocation will be only \$575,713.

Currently, MCAH subcontracts with five BIH subcontractors in the service planning areas (SPAs):

- Partners In Care Foundation, Inc. (PICF) SPA 1 (Antelope Valley)
- Mission City Community Network, Inc. (MCCN) SPA 2 (San Fernando)
- Prototypes (Proto) SPA 3 (San Gabriel)
- Great Beginnings For Black Babies (GBBB) SPAs 4 (Central), 6 (South) and 8 (South Bay)
- The Children's Collective, Inc. (TCCI) SPAs 6 (South) and 8 (South Bay)

Without SGF and matching federal dollars, MCAH will be unable to continue contracting with all five BIH subcontractors and will most likely be able to maintain one small program in South Los Angeles.

On June 15, 2009, the Budget Conference Committee rejected the Administration's \$3.1 million reduction and restored \$900,000. It is unclear how this reduced level of funding, will be allocated.

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In the meantime, as the State considers the proposed reductions, MCAH will alert the BIH subcontractors of the potential State cuts for the FY 2009-10 BIH SGF and Title XIX allocations, and inform them how the funding cuts may impact their contracts for FY 2009-10.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

## JEF:iw

c: Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H. Sheila Shima Richard K. Mason Gary Izumi Cynthia A. Harding